The Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council, Seghill.

Annual Report
1895.

Gentlemen,

I have again to present to you my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the year 1895.

Mortality

A total of 46 deaths took place in the district during the year.
Calculating the population at 2300, this number of deaths gives an Annual Mortality of 20 per thousand. In 1894 the mortality was at the rate of 15·2 per thousand and in 1893 the mortality was at the rate of 20·4 per thousand of the estimated population. The average mortality for the three years is thus seen to be at the rate of 18·5 per thousand of the population per annum. This is a very satisfactory mortality, considering the character of the population.

Birth-Rate

During the year 76 Births were registered in the district. This gives a Birth-Rate of 33·04 per thousand of the population per annum. During the year 1894 the Births were at the rate of 37·39 per thousand of the population & during 1893 the Birth-Rate was 30 per thousand of the population. This gives an average Birth-Rate for the 3 years of 33·47.

Causes of Death

The 46 deaths which occurred in the district during the year were the result of the following causes:—

Pneumonia, Bronchitis &c	= 9
Heart Disease	= 3
Phthisis	= 8
Debility from Birth	= 6
Whooping-Cough	= 1
Measles	= 2
Enteric Fever	= 1
Injuries	= 2
Other Causes	= 14
Total	= 46

Ages at Death

The ages at which the various deaths occurred were as follows:—

The deaths as they occurred during the respective Months, Quarters, and Half-Years were as follows:

Infant Mortality

Twenty out of the total number of 46 deaths occurred under 5 years of age. This gives an entire infant mortality at the rate of 8.69 per thousand of the population. During 1894 the infant mortality was at the rate of 7.8 and in 1893 a mortality at the rate of 8.2 per thousand of the population prevailed. The average infant mortality for the 3 years is therefore seen to be at the rate of 8.23 per thousand of the population.

The number of deaths under 1 year of age was 9. This gives a mortality at the rate of 3.9 per thousand of the population or at the rate of 118.42 per thousand births registered.

Causes of Infant Mortality

On examination of the 20 deaths which occurred under 5 years of age we find they resulted from the following causes:—

Pneumonia & Bronchitis	caused	5	deaths
Convulsions	"	6	"
Debility from Birth	"	6	"
Measles	"	2	"
Whooping-Cough	"	1	"
	Total	20	.

Zymotic Disease

The forms of Zymotic Disease which have existed in the district during the year were:—
Measles, Whooping-Cough and Enteric Fever.

Measles

The disease appeared first in Blaketown in the month of May when 3 cases occurred in 1 house. The disease spread and 12 cases were noticed during the month.

During the month of June 25 cases appeared. Of these One proved fatal from a Complication with Bronchitis.
In July 23 cases of the disease occurred and One died from Pneumonia.
In all 60 cases came under notice. Most were of a mild type, only two proving fatal.

Whooping-Cough

This disease appeared in the month of July and became prevalent during the latter half of the year. The cases were mild in character and only 1 death resulted in a weakly infant of 9 months from Pneumonia.
Towards the end of the year the disease disappeared.

Enteric or Typhoid Fever

Early in September a case of Enteric Fever appeared at West Farm in the person of a young man of 20. This after a severe attack proved fatal.
In October another case but of a mild nature occurred at Blue Row and recovered.
In both cases enquiry was made into the Milk Supplies, Water Supplies and Sanitary Surroundings. In neither case could any cause be discovered. The first case occurred at an isolated hamlet which is supplied with good spring water and pure milk. There were no drains in connection with the house. These should be immediately put in and properly ventilated and trapped.
In the other case which occurred in an isolated row of houses, no unsanitary condition actually existed but the level of the drain

is somewhat defective. It should be flushed out frequently and an elevated ventilator placed at its highest end.

Zymotic Mortality

Only 4 deaths occurred from Zymotic Disease during the year, viz:- 2 from Measles, 1 from Whooping-Cough and 1 from Typhoid Fever.

This number gives a Mortality at the rate of 1·73 per thousand of the population per annum. In 1894 the Zymotic Mortality was nil and in 1893 it was at the rate of 1·7 per thousand per annum. Thus the average Zymotic Mortality for the 3 years was at the rate of 1·1 per thousand of the population per annum.

This is a very satisfactory condition of affairs in such a district and community as exist here.

Sanitary Work

This department has been well attended to during the year. The ash-pits have been kept well cleared and there have been no such large accumulations as were formerly allowed to be seen.

Inspection of District

I have frequently throughout the year made inspections of all parts of the district and reported the results to the Council.

The water-supply to a large dairy recently established in the district at Mare's Close Farm formed the subject of inspection by the Council at my suggestion. It having been found unsatisfactory as regarded its Engineering, a better arrangement was

at once agreed upon and an excellent and plentiful supply was provided both for the drinking water of the cows and for the working of the dairy. The dairy has now been registered.

I have to congratulate the council upon their again receiving a satisfactory report upon the Sanitary History of the district for the year and especially upon the continued low mortality from Epidemic Disease which, in a district such as this, is almost phenomenal.

The usual Local Government Board Schedules are appended to this report.

Your Obedt. Servt.
Robt. Hedrop, M.D. &c
Medical Officer of Health

Seaton Delaval
March 7th 1896.

No. 3.
(A)

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1895, in the Seghill Urban District, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (See note 4 on back of sheet.) (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.) (a)	Mortality from all causes, at subjoined Ages. At all ages. (b)	Under 1 year. (c)	1 and under 5. (d)	5 and under 15. (e)	15 and under 25. (f)	25 and under 65. (g)	65 and upwards. (h)	(i)	1 Smallpox.	2 Scarlatina.	3 Diphtheria.	4 Membranous Croup.	5 Fevers. Typhus.	6 Enteric or Typhoid.	7 Continued	8 Relapsing	9 Puerperal.	10 Cholera.	11 Erysipelas.	12 Measles.	13 Whooping Cough.	14 Diarrhœa and Dysentery	15 Rheumatic Fever.	16 Phthisis.	17 Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	18 Heart Disease.	19 *	20 Injuries.	21 All Other Diseases.	22 Total.
Seghill	46	9	11	0	7	11	8	Under 5												2	1				5				12	20
								5 upwds.						1										8	4	3		2	8	26
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Totals	46	9	11	0	7	11	8	Under 5												2	1				5				12	20
								5 upwds.						1										8	4	3		2	8	26

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality. *See Note 5 on back.*

Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.								Under 5																						
								5 upwds.																						
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.								Under 5																						
								5 upwds.																						

* The heading of column 19 is left blank for the insertion of Influenza, or any other disease which it may be thought desirable to record.

NOTES ON TABLE B.

(See also Notes on back of Table A.)

NOTE 1. The present *Table B.* is concerned with population, births, and sickness (not with mortality) in the district or division to which the Table relates.

2. As stated in the heading of Col. *(a)*, *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the new cases of sickness in them should be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially of sick people, are received, are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

3. *Comments on any unequal incidence of notifiable disease upon the several localities, and considerations as to the local incidence of consumption and other prevalent diseases, should be made in the text of the Report.*

W B & L (555u)—56238—10,200-10-95